



September | October 2023

PATROL NEWS



OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION

from the STAFF

THE STORIES THAT MAKE HISTORY

Lt. Colonel David A. Flannigan

Assistant Superintendent



When I was a trooper working the road in Lincoln and Pike counties, there were Patrol yearbooks and other publications in the zone office. Included was a photocopy of a publication simply titled, "Trooper," which marked the Patrol's 50th anniversary in 1981. Its title was sort of a misnomer since it was a collection of 10 interviews of both sworn and civilian employees of the Patrol. There were times while eating dinner in the zone office that I would read the articles of what life was like for a Patrol employee back in the 1930s through the 1970s. The stories varied from Tillie Sonnen's stories of the very beginning of the Patrol's existence, to recollections of two separate shootouts with Bonnie and Clyde, to Harry Duncan's experiences as the first director of Radio.

Early tales of life on the Patrol were sprinkled with Patrol employees who had cool names like "Pappy" Dix, "Poodle" Breid, "Hap" Maddox, "Shorty" Wallis, "Slick" Slevin, and "Doc" Harris to name a few. The stories in "Trooper" included some of those employees, along with their recollections of life at the scale house in Kingdom City, driving convertible patrol cars with the top down in winter, amusing driver examinations, and other incidents that were notable moments in their careers.

Decades later, Public Information Specialist III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED) compiled interviews of 12 retired civilian and sworn employees to commemorate the Patrol's 75th anniversary in 2006. The stories were from every decade of the Patrol's existence and were combined with the content of "Trooper" to create a single resource on the Patrol's website titled, "To Serve & Protect, A Collection of Memories."

At that same time, the Ultimate Sacrifice page of the Patrol's website was updated with great effort to include personal stories of each trooper who died in the line of duty. Articles written by current and retired employees personalize the lives of our fallen troopers.

The articles in Ultimate Sacrifice and "To Serve & Protect" include pictures that give readers a glimpse of past employees and their experiences. There are so many great photos that I cannot decide which is my favorite or most memorable. The photos in the Ultimate Sacrifice pages help give us an appreciation of who those 31 troopers were in life, rather than have our knowledge of them be limited to how they died.

There are many resources on our website that give information to the general public regarding services we provide and how to access them. There are also interesting historical items that allow us to relive the events of our past and appreciate how far we have come collectively as an agency. I encourage you to take some time to read these stories on our website. If you pace yourself and read one or two of them as time allows, you just might feel like you finished reading a good book when you're done. If similar articles are written at the Patrol's 100th anniversary (hint, hint), I'll probably read them and enjoy them, too. I will likely reflect on how great an organization the Patrol is and how fortunate I was to be part of it.

To all our current employees, thank you for the duties you perform every day. Everything you are doing will be material for the history books, and it matters to everyone who has proudly worked for the Patrol and to everyone who benefits from our services. To all our retirees, thank you for the part you played in the Patrol's wonderful history, which continues to be written. We all benefit from the reputation you established. I also want to thank all the families of those who gave their life performing the duties of a Missouri state trooper. Your loved ones died making a difference in the lives of their fellow Missourians, and we will not forget their lives and sacrifice.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. A. Flannigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "D. A." on the top line and "Flannigan" on the bottom line.

CELEBRATING OVER 57 YEARS OF NEWS
PATROL NEWS

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September | October 2023

PATROL NEWS



OVER NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROTECTION

Volume 58 • Number 2

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ON THE COVER

Tpr. Brandon Harris (F) accepted an arm wrestling challenge from this young man at the Soap Box Derby in Columbia, MO. Story on page 18.

K9 JACK

Retires

The Patrol's K-9 Jack retired August 1, 2023. His partner, Sergeant David W. Crank (E), said Jack began serving the citizens of Missouri in May 2017. K-9 Jack's retirement will include carrying sticks around (he loves that) and swimming at Kentucky Lake.

Sgt. Crank shared the following story about working with K-9 Jack:

Following a pursuit initiated by Sergeant Blake D. Wunderlich (E), the driver bailed on foot. I deployed Jack for a track, and he lost the track near the golf course in Charleston, MO. Sgt. Wunderlich, Jack, and I started searching the golf course until we got to the other side, but we didn't locate anything. We met up with a Charleston police officer who wanted to give us a ride back, since we were about a mile from our vehicles. It was a nice night, so we decided to just walk back. While walking back across the golf course, Jack was out ahead of us just being a dog and smelling things. He was off to our right when suddenly, at full speed, he ran out of sight. I told Sgt. Wunderlich, "I know what that means, and we have to hurry and find him." We found Jack and the driver who had fled on foot. The driver was lying face down not moving and Jack was standing on top of him with his front paws on his back. He was wagging his tail and smiling. Jack is my second police K-9, and they never cease to amaze me."

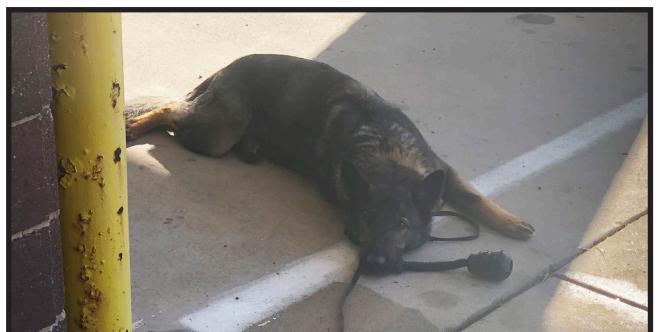
Enjoy the photos of K-9 Jack and his partner, Sgt. Crank. Thank you for your service, K-9 Jack!



K9 PELLE *Retires*

Congratulations to K-9 Pelle upon his retirement August 15, 2023. Pelle joined the Patrol in June 2019 and since that time responded to 241 calls for service. His work resulted in the seizure of 883 pounds of marijuana, 82 pounds of methamphetamine, four pounds of cocaine, 4.2 pounds of heroin, one pound of psychedelic mushrooms, 700 pills of prescription medication, \$14,000 in illicit currency, and four firearms. Pelle also participated in 19 human tracking/manhunts, 15 public demonstrations, six building searches, and five article searches. Retired K-9 Pelle is living the good life in rural Northeast Missouri. His partner, Cpl. Travis L. Peters (C), describes K-9 Pelle as, "The best tracking K-9 west of the Mississippi."

Thank you for your service, K-9 Pelle!



DPS HONORS ABERLE

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)



Program Supervisor Pam M. Aberle (Q/CJISD) accepted the Department of Public Safety's August 2023 NonSworn Team Member of the Month award on Friday, August 25, 2023. She serves as the program supervisor of the Sex Offender Registry Unit for the MSHP's Criminal Justice Information Services Division. Ms. Aberle believed there was a need for education, information sharing, and networking among all agencies and personnel sharing some level of responsibility in the sex offender registration process. She was instrumental in planning the 2023 Sex Offender Registry conference, which welcomed 134 attendees March 28-30, 2023, in Jefferson City, MO. (See story May/June 2023 *Patrol News*.)

While planning the conference, Ms. Aberle continued with her daily duties of supervising eight employees and helping to maintain the integrity of the registry, which has over 18,000 registered sex offenders. She was also completing the Missouri Leadership Academy during this time.

The Department of Public Safety named Ms. Aberle the August 2023 NonSworn Team Member of the Month. The presentation took place Friday, August 25, 2023, in the second-



Pictured left to right (front row) are Col. Eric Olson, Stacey Hinson (Q/CJISD), Makenzie Schwartz (Q/CJISD), Program Sprv. Pam Aberle (Q/CJISD), DPS Director Sandra Karsten; (back row, l to r) Maj. Chris Jolly (Q/TSB), and Capt. Gara Howard (Q/CJISD).

floor conference room of the Waggoner Building at General Headquarters.

"Pam has always done a terrific job, no matter where she worked in the division," said Major Chris S. Jolly (Q/TSB), who emceed the event and read the nomination.

Colonel Eric T. Olson congratulated Ms. Aberle and presented a challenge coin to her. In his remarks he acknowledged that some work by the Patrol occurs under the surface. He said the public may not be aware of the importance of what the Sex Offender Registry Unit does, "But, I am."

"She is very passionate about the registry and the integrity of it," said Capt. Gara N. Howard (Q/CJISD) after congratulating Ms. Aberle. "She felt having a conference with its stakeholders would provide information and networking. She has a great relationship in her unit. They communicate well, they get along, and they trust one another."

After the presentation, Ms. Aberle told those present the Sex Offender Registry Unit had a big role in organizing the conference. "I depend on my staff a lot, and they know I have complete trust in them."

WITH
sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Sgt. Doug E. Siegfried (B) - mother
Auto. Tech. Sprv. Chris M. Cutler (D) - mother
Ret. CVO II Daryl W. Dell - wife
Garage Supt. Brad W. Adams (Q/FFD) - father
CVO Chief Ken L. Shewey (H) - father
DE III Patrick M. O'Keefe (C) - father-in-law
Ret. Sgt. Bob P. Eddleman - wife
Ret. Sgt. David C. Martin - mother-in-law
Ret. Sgt. Capt. Hershel E. Sisk - wife

*thank
you*

Thank you to my Patrol family for all the prayers, cards, messages, and calls of support during my father's illness and death. Words cannot adequately express how much it has meant to my family.

Comm. Oper. III Lori K. Downey (B)

Thank you to everyone for the calls, cards, texts, and expressions of condolence and sympathy following the death of my mother, Susan Siegfried. Your thoughtfulness and compassion were truly appreciated. A special thank you to all the Patrol personnel who attended the visitation and funeral. Your presence left a lasting impression on my family and friends. Thank you for your consideration.

Sgt. Doug E. Siegfried (B)

CRIMINALIST LEPPER: MAFS OUTSTANDING SCIENTIST

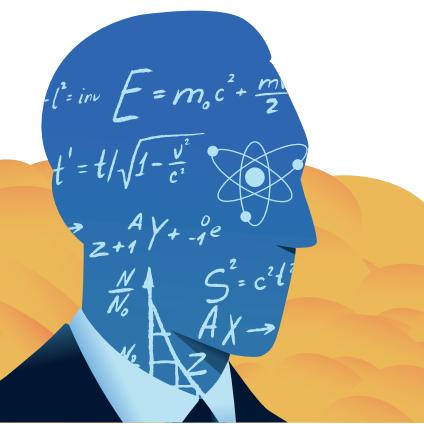
By Brian K. Hoey
Director (Q/CLD)

The Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists selected Criminalist III Matt J. Lepper (Q/CLD) as the recipient of the Outstanding Scientist Award for 2023. Matt was recognized during the annual meeting in Detroit, MI, Thursday, August 31, 2023, at the association's annual business and awards luncheon. Matt was unable to attend, but he prerecorded a thank you address that was played to the association's attendees and was well received. The Crime Laboratory Division representatives who were present at the event accepted Matt's plaque on his behalf.

The qualifications for this award include demonstrating a high level of motivation and leadership, contributing to the field of forensic science, and demonstrating a high level of knowledge and expertise in casework. Below are some excerpts from the nomination letter underscoring why Matt not only meets but exceeds the qualifications and was chosen for this prestigious award.

"Mr. Lepper is both diligent and industrious in his accomplishments within the field of forensic science."

"He led discussions on communication, organized trainings on customer service, and met with his employees



on a routine basis to hear their concerns and to find solutions to their problems."

"Mr. Lepper is the Swiss Army Knife of criminalists and has served our division in a unique and indispensable way."

"Mr. Lepper's work has been integral to the Drug Chemistry Section's continued improvement and high level of quality in our work product. His cases are nearly flawless the first time every time."

"Matt is the person who will fill the shared chemicals, take out the trash, and change an empty helium tank all without asking."

"He has set an atmosphere of going beyond the required and has created a positive work environment for everyone."

It goes without saying we are immensely proud of Matt that MAFS has presented him with a 2023 Outstanding Scientist Award. Congratulations, Matt, well deserved!



Criminalist Sprv. Erin Haseltine presents the MAFS Outstanding Scientist Award for 2023 to Crim. III Matt Lepper (both Q/ CLD).



SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

This post of Troopers Chase Fox (F) and Adam Billiot (C) testing out a new form of transportation during the State Fair was quite popular with followers on the Patrol's social media accounts.



Congratulations on your Retirement!

For your years of dedicated service, loyalty, and selfless giving, we thank you.



RYAN A. BURCKHARDT
Captain
Troop C
Retired August 1, 2023.
26 years, one month of dedicated service.



JEFF L. COULSON
Sergeant
Q/GD
Retired August 1, 2023.
28 years, 7 months of dedicated service.



PHIL E. GREGORY
Captain
Troop E
Retired August 1, 2023.
30 years of dedicated service.



TODD A. HADLOCK
Corporal
Troop D
Retired August 1, 2023.
28 years, 7 months of dedicated service.



BETH M. MANLEY
MVI III
Troop A
Retired August 1, 2023.
26 years, 11 months of dedicated service.



LORETTA C. MITCHELL
Program Sprv.
Q/PRD
Retired August 1, 2023.
20 years of dedicated service.



NICK A. SPENCER
DE III
Troop A
Retired August 1, 2023.
7 years of dedicated service.



DONNA F. NITSCH
Procurement Officer I
Q/BPD
Retired September 1, 2023.
30 years of dedicated service.



ERIC J. NORMAN
Sergeant
Q/GD
Retired September 1, 2023.
27 years, 2 months of dedicated service.

CPL. LASHMET DEMONSTRATES COMMITMENT, RESOURCEFULNESS

By Sgt. Mike P. McClure (D)

Thursday, July 20, 2023, Corporal W. Sean Lashmet (D) accepted the July 2023 DPS Sworn Team Member of the Month award during a ceremony at Troop D Headquarters. He was recognized for his heroic and compassionate efforts beyond the call of duty to save the life of a shooting victim.

"Cpl. Lashmet is very deserving of this recognition," said Capt. D. Scott Sater (D), who served as emcee for the event. "He was faced with a very difficult and challenging set of circumstances. Upon arriving on the scene, he did not hesitate. He took quick and decisive action to provide immediate medical aid to the victim. Cpl. Lashmet's quick decision to transport the victim from a remote area directly to the hospital in his patrol vehicle was clearly a heroic effort to save the life of another. I am extremely proud of Cpl. Lashmet's actions, where he clearly demonstrated the Patrol's core values of commitment and resourcefulness during this most stressful incident."

Capt. Sater then shared the nomination's narrative about the incident:

On February 23, 2023, Cpl. Lashmet received a call for service regarding a suicidal person at the Busiek State Forest and Wildlife Area. Upon his arrival, he located and attempted to contact the suicidal subject, who was seated inside a vehicle in a parking area. As Cpl. Lashmet approached the vehicle, the 26-year-old female shot herself in the chest. Cpl. Lashmet took decisive action to access the victim, secure the

firearm, and provide medical aid. He communicated with the trauma doctor, Brian B. Draper, via cell phone and rendered additional emergency medical aid. He also made the decision to transport the patient in his patrol vehicle due to the unknown response time of emergency medical personnel. Cpl. Lashmet transported the female subject approximately 26 miles to Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO, in 16 minutes, where emergency surgery was performed to address her injuries. The patient survived the surgery, but, unfortunately, succumbed to her injuries while in the ICU.

Dr. Draper, the attending physician, typed a report of commendation via the Patrol's website the following day praising Cpl. Lashmet for his actions during this stressful incident. In the report, Dr. Draper stated, "It is because of the corporal's quick actions the patient had a chance of survival."

Director Sandra K. Karsten, Missouri Department of Public Safety, presented the award and congratulated Cpl. Lashmet.

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Patrol, was also present to congratulate Cpl. Lashmet. "I am very proud of Cpl. Lashmet's extraordinary lifesaving efforts," said Col. Olson. "His commitment to the citizens of Missouri and the Patrol is a great example to all of us."

Congratulations, Cpl. Lashmet!



Col. Eric Olson (r) congratulates Cpl. Sean Lashmet (D) during the DPS Sworn Team Member of the Month presentation.

(l to r) Major Mike Turner (Q/FOB), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Capt. Scott Sater (D), Sgt. Chase Stallcup (D), and (far right) Col. Eric Olson were present to celebrate with Cpl. Sean Lashmet (D), his daughter, Harper, and his wife, Christina.



PATROL YOUTH ACADEMY: Teamwork, Leadership

By Tpr. R. Mike Malone (Q/RCOD)

The Recruiting and Community Outreach Division hosted the 10th Patrol Youth Academy from July 31 through August 4, 2023, at the Eagle Sky, a camp located in Piedmont, MO. Participants applied to attend the experience and provided an essay as part of the application process. All the participants are 16-18 years old.

The dedication and knowledge of the 17 employees serving as camp staff and mentors ensured its success. The program allowed participants to explore a career in law enforcement and establish positive relationships with current officers. The troopers involved and the participants had a lot to say about the week.

"As cadets, I think it is awesome how we came together as a team." — I.Z., Parma, MO.

"It's something I really never considered doing. But, after seeing the Water Patrol Division, I definitely want to go into that division. Hanging with and getting to know the troopers was my favorite part of the camp." — K.R., Wentzville, MO.

"We learn as much or more from them as they do from us," said Sgt. Rich A. Stewart (Q/RCOD). "Getting to know them gives me hope. It is a really neat experience."

"I learned a lot. I had no idea the Highway Patrol had as many career opportunities as it does." — L.K., Carthage, MO.

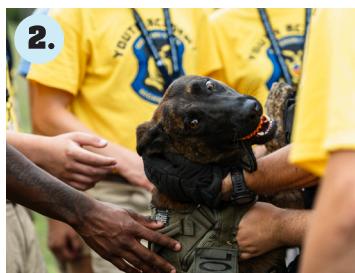
"It was so rewarding learning how to and then growing as a team. This Youth Academy definitely has prepared me for the MSHP's Trooper Academy." — C.Y., Bucklin, MO.

"This academy has challenged me and better prepared me for life, especially regarding leadership." — C.P., West Plains, MO.

"After going to this camp, I now know being a Missouri state trooper is the career for me." — B.G., Fredericktown, MO.

Both Trooper Elijah N. Stinson (B) and Trooper Landon C. Priuett (G) attended a Patrol Youth Academy prior to becoming a member. "I thought the Youth Academy was a great opportunity to familiarize myself with everyday functions of the Patrol," said Tpr. Stinson. "Once I began to interact with the troopers and saw our core values displayed, I understood why the Patrol was the law enforcement agency for me. I'm honored to wear the uniform."

Tpr. Priuett said the camp provided guidance regarding what to expect as a recruit in the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy and the career opportunities within the agency. "I learned a lot about teamwork and leadership during the Youth Academy."



1. A cadet gave a thumbs up after learning about the duties of a road trooper.

2. K9 Emilka (F) made friends wherever she went.

3. The ropes course encouraged team building and built self-confidence.

4. Capt. Justin McCullough (Q\FOB) congratulated his son with a salute at graduation.

5. Wheeee! Splash!

6. The Patrol Youth Academy staff and participants enjoyed their week together.

7. Ret. Sgt. Kevin Haywood, a part-time recruiter for the Patrol, provided guidance to a cadet during traffic stops.

8. Sgt. Darrin Haslag (Q\DDCC) set up a mock crime scene for the cadets to investigate.

9. Cpl. Caleb Morgan (E) explained the duties of marine operations troopers to the cadets. About his experience, Cpl. Morgan said, "I really enjoyed it. I think it's a great way to connect and educate the youth about all the different opportunities that the Patrol has to offer. I have heard from numerous adults and youth over the years that they weren't aware of all the different divisions within the Highway Patrol. They thought everyone worked the road. Also, I think it's a great way to teach youths responsibility and team building."

10. Pull, team! These young people did their best to pull instructors into the mud.

11. Tpr. Brandon Harris (F) gave cadets a tour of a patrol vehicle and explained SWAT equipment.

12. The youth enjoyed exploring the Patrol helicopter.

13. Tpr. Gary Daniels (Q\RCOD) provided instruction regarding marching and facing movements.

"After going to this camp, I now know being a

Missouri state trooper is the career for me."

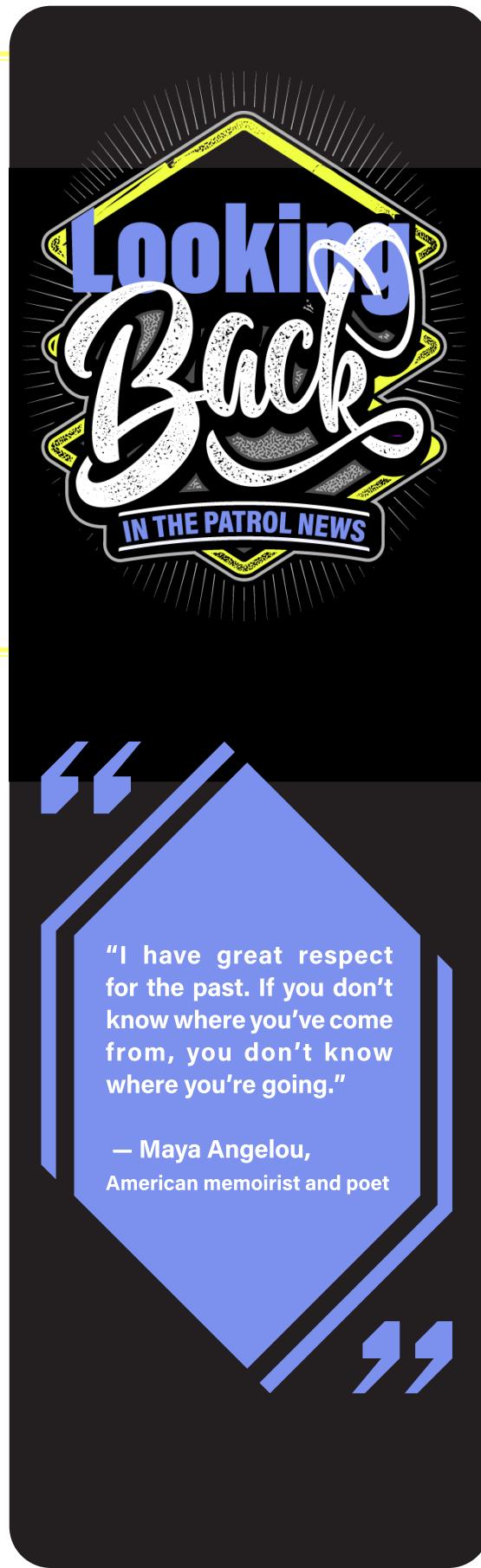
— B.G., Fredericktown, MO.

50 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1973

Cpl. Bruce A. Hamilton (C) submitted an article that told this story: One of our officers was sent to a crash near the home of a new trooper. As the officer arrived at the scene of the fender bender, a rookie jogged by in a T-shirt, Academy shorts, and a big grin. During the course of the investigation, one of the drivers said, "This is a terrible road. Can't you do something to cut down on the numerous accidents?" The officer replied, "Well, we've got rookies patrolling it on foot, I don't know what else we can do." This was met by a big smile and an, "Oh, sure." Luckily, about this time, the rookie jogged by as he returned home, and the large Patrol Academy insignia was pointed out. Needless to say, the lady's reaction was worth seeing.

40 YEARS AGO OCTOBER 1983

Trooper Larry A. Dudgeon (F) reported a driver attracted his attention after coming across the center line of Missouri Highway 28 into the lane where his patrol vehicle was traveling. Tpr. Dudgeon avoided the pickup by visiting the ditch. After driving out of the ditch, he activated his red lights and siren. About a mile later, after several other motorists took scenic routes through the ditch to avoid the pickup, the man stopped. Tpr. Dudgeon then conveyed the driver to the nearest breathalyzer as he explained the implied consent law. At the Owensville Police Station, the pickup driver registered .24 BAC and told Tpr. Dudgeon, "Son, you know you guys gotta get these blanket-blank drunks like me off the road. You know, we're gonna kill somebody one of these days!"



30 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1993

An 800 number was established to help handle the volume of calls about road conditions during the 1993 flood. Updating the road condition reports twice daily or as needed fell under the Communications and Public Information and Education divisions. The system included two automated announcements: the first answered the system and introduced callers to the content of the recording. The second message contained major road (interstate and U.S. Highways) and bridge closing information. Even with that restriction, the message exceeded three minutes in late July as flood waters covered many roads in Troops A, B, C, F, and H. During a six-week period, this system answered 90,000 calls.

20 YEARS AGO OCTOBER 2003

Trooper Jeff White (F) responded to a location on Highway 54 in Callaway County after a caller reported she had struck an animal. She thought it was a dog; however, when Tpr. White arrived he discovered a deceased, adult male mountain lion. Preliminary examinations revealed the animal was approximately 105 pounds and 50 inches long with a tail of more than 30 inches. The mountain lion had little plaque on his teeth, sharp claws, and soft pad paws. These characteristics indicated the cat was wild according to the Conservation Department.

October 31, 1963

Missouri State Highway Patrol
Jefferson City, Missouri
October 31, 1963

Subject: General Headquarters Order No. 2-63
To: All Employees



1. Our move into the new headquarters building is a most important milestone in the history of the Highway Patrol. It is the first time since the organization was created in 1931 that we have had our own, permanent headquarters building. Even though we spent 25 years in the state office building, it has long been our desire to have our own building, and the recent move is a fine example of what can come from conscientious devotion to duty.
2. Now that we have the finest facilities available, it behooves every individual to do his part to maintain them in immaculate condition. With the cooperation of everyone, it will not be difficult to keep the building and equipment so we will all be proud to show our visitors where we work. Remember also that our appearance tells them much about our efficiency.
3. The following will aid materially in keeping the building presentable:
 - a. Do not take food and drinks to your desk.
 - b. Do not throw papers or ashes on the floor.
 - c. Chewing gum should not be put under tables or chairs.
 - d. Refrain from throwing litter in the drinking fountains.
 - e. During inclement weather, remove galoshes at the entrance so snow and mud will not be carried through the building.
 - f. Photographs, maps, et cetera, will not be placed on the walls, except upon approval of the superintendent.
 - g. All desks should be cleared at night to facilitate dusting and cleaning.
 - h. Exercise care in the use of ink and carbon paper to keep desks in good condition.
 - i. Return bottles to racks in conference room.
 - j. Do not throw cartons containing liquids in the waste baskets.
4. All employees should feel free to bring their families and friends to show them through the building. The dedication will be at 2 p.m. on December 8, 1963. We will have open house from 1 to 5 p.m. during that afternoon.
5. All division supervisors should submit a list by November 15 of those individuals or organizations they feel should be invited to the dedication.
6. Instead of scheduled coffee breaks as in the past, employees may take 15 minutes, morning and afternoon, at their own discretion. Section supervisors will be held responsible for preventing abuse of this privilege. Coffee will be available in the conference room any time between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
7. Responsibility of building cleaning and maintenance is assigned to Captain D.E. Harrison, Louis Tellman, who will normally work days and spend most of his time with outside work, will also be the supervisor of two building maintenance employees, Carl Potts and Anthony "Tony" Pietzmeyer. They will work from 4 p.m. to midnight. Any division supervisor who has projects for these employees that are other than routine cleaning, should discuss them with Mr. Tellman or Captain Harrison.
8. Chester Elbert has been assigned to the Division of Finance. He will pick up and deliver mail and handle deliveries from one section to another. When his schedule has been established for regular runs, all supervisors will receive a copy. All requests for him to handle assignments other than on regular runs should be made to the Division of Finance.
9. To obtain the WATS line when the switchboard is manually operated dial "0" (operator) and request the line. She will inform you if it is available or notify you when it is your turn. You then dial 93 and await the tone signal before dialing the WATS number. When the switchboard is on automatic operation you may dial 93 for the WATS line. If your number is one that cannot be dialed direct, obtain the WATS line and then dial "0" (operator) and request of the operator the number you desire.
10. Cars of civilian employees should be parked either on the south side of the blacktop lot or on the gravel lots. In the near future, more definite parking spaces will be assigned.
11. Turn out all lights when leaving the office at noon or evening.
12. Outgoing mail should be sorted in the division office according to troop and then placed in the proper box in the mailing room by 4 p.m. or before, if your mail is ready.

HUGH H. WAGGONER, Colonel
Commanding Officer

HHW:MS

GRANDSTAND DETAIL:

Great Assignment At State Fair

By Cheryl D. Cobb

Public Information Specialist III (Q/PIED)

Every year in August, Sedalia, MO, becomes almost a city within a city when the Missouri State Fair comes to town. The fairgrounds come to life with exhibits, livestock competition, games, concerts, tractor pulls, entertainment, and food. Throughout the fair, the Patrol detail is there to interact with the public, patrol the grounds, and provide traffic control. Within the detail are several special assignments, such as the grandstand detail.

The 2023 grandstand detail included 19 troopers. Eight troopers and an officer-in-charge were assigned to each event. This rotates halfway through the fair. Two members of the grandstand detail took time to answer a few questions.

Sgt. Matt A. Goodson (D) said he requests the grandstand detail and has been, "fortunate enough to be selected for the assignment over the past several years."

The detail typically arrives about 4 p.m., several

hours before the event, to conduct a security briefing with the performer's personnel and discuss their requests and to obtain any meet and greet information. "After the briefing, we conduct a security sweep of the grandstand and prepare for the concert or event," said Sgt. Goodson. "At the conclusion of the concert, we secure the grandstand and assist the ground teams on the fairgrounds. The grandstand assignment is typically a one-week assignment and then you are rotated to gates, ground patrol, bike patrol, or carnival grounds."

When asked which 2023 event stood out, he admitted that most of the concerts and performers have begun to run together. "In the past, there have been several performers who will approach the members of the detail and engage in a conversation," said Sgt. Goodson. "Sometimes we know they are the artists; sometimes we don't. The Nelly concert stands out to me, mainly because it just occurred, but I don't recall another concert where



the crowd was as into the show as they were during the Nelly concert."

Corporal Steven J. Force (H) requested to be part of the Patrol's bike detail and described being assigned to the grandstand detail as, "a bonus I did not ask for." It was his first year, and he described a typical day as including a meeting, stopping for dinner, sometimes a second meeting, then greeting attendees as they arrive. Events take place under the watchful eyes of the detail whose goal is to keep the peace and ensure everyone has a positive, enjoyable experience.

"Nelly stands out to me, partly because it was such a positive atmosphere," said Cpl. Force. He said although it wasn't his genre of music, he thought it was a good show. It isn't unusual for troopers assigned to the State Fair to be recognized by people they know, "One of my wife's classmates texted her a picture of my backside.

Apparently, it was too loud to get my attention, and I walked too fast for her to get a pic of my face."

"I still think bike patrol is the fair's best kept secret," said Cpl. Force, "but, I really enjoyed the grandstand detail and would not hesitate to work it again."

"The grandstand detail is a great assignment at the fair," said Sgt. Goodson. "You get an opportunity to visit with a wide variety of people, from those attending the concerts to those who help the performances run smoothly. From the other troopers on the detail, to the concessions' workers, the lighting crew, sound techs, backstage runners, and fair commissioners, to the performers and their personnel. Everyone plays an important role to have a successful show. I have made several friends from working the detail."

1. Singer Nelly entertains the crowd.
2. Young fairgoers always enjoy talking to troopers like Tpr. Logan Bolton (C).
3. Sgt. Mike Mitchell (I) helps this young lady speak with Otto-The-Talking Car.
4. CVO Chief Vonda Smith (A) answers questions about careers with the Patrol.
5. Comm. Oper. III Justin Davis (E) answers a call for assistance during a shift at the State Fair.
6. Cpl. Steven Force (H) and Sgt. Matthew Goodson (D) are ready to begin their bike patrol shift on the fairgrounds.
7. Tpr. Elijah Stinson (B) and Sgt. Thomas Mitchell (F) enjoyed catching up with this young man.
8. Tpr. Mike Malone (Q/RCOD) says it's never too early to start recruiting.
9. Sgt. Roger Sherman (H) handles State Fair traffic with a smile.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.

“ I still think bike patrol is the fair's best kept secret,” said Cpl. Force, “but, I really enjoyed the grandstand detail and would not hesitate to work it again.”



After the ceremony (l to r) Maj. Paul Kerperin (Q/CIB), Capt. Roger Phillips (Q/DDCC), DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Cpl. Justin Peabody (Q/DDCC), Mrs. Crystal Peabody, and Col. Eric Olson paused for a photo.

CPL. PEABODY: *Serving, Protecting, and Connecting*

By Sgt. Darrin Haslag (Q/DDCC)

In my years with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, I've come to realize that every successful officer I know has one thing in common. This one thing seems simple for those officers for whom it comes naturally. It's nearly impossible to teach, you can't read about it in a book, and years of service don't necessarily endow you with it. This one thing is an officer's ability to make connections with the people he or she serves. It's the ability to do their job both correctly and competently while remaining compassionate, giving those with whom they come into contact the confidence they care and are approachable.

Corporal Justin E. Peabody (Q/DDCC), the August 2023 Department of Public Safety Sworn Team Member of the Month, has that ability. It can be seen in the descriptions of the following investigations, which led to Justin being recognized. If he didn't have the ability to make connections with people, the outcomes would not have been what they were.

Cpl. Peabody's first case was the investigation of a 65-year-old man who had been reported missing.

Through metadata on a photograph and an overseas Instagram account, Cpl. Peabody traced the man to South America. He contacted the man, who said he had voluntarily moved to South America and did not plan to return.

In the second case, Cpl. Peabody

“
Justin is relentless with any investigation he is assigned and leaves no stone unturned.
— Lieutenant Garrett J. Loring (Q/DDCC)

the girl, who was in Arkansas, Cpl. Peabody convinced her to return to Missouri, and she was placed in the custody of a family member.

Finally, Cpl. Peabody's investigative skills not only allowed him to find a missing 17-year-old girl, but to also learn of a sexual assault on a 14-year-old that resulted in criminal charges against a 32-year-old man.

Cpl. Peabody's supervisors indicated these examples only scratched the surface.

“Justin is a model employee,” said Sergeant Scott E. Rawson (Q/DDCC). “He's a team player who always goes the extra mile on his investigations and to support his team. His ability to gain trust from the public continues to benefit the organization. While conducting a homicide investigation in Cedar County, Justin interviewed a witness who later called him with information they had learned about a leaving the scene crash where an Amish buggy was struck, leaving a female in critical condition and causing the death of her unborn baby. This information led to the identification of the driver and the suspect vehicle. Two individuals were charged with leaving the scene

used his experience developing informants to gain the trust of a former boyfriend of a missing 16-year-old girl. The former boyfriend contacted Cpl. Peabody soon after the girl contacted him. Once he was in contact with

as well as tampering with evidence."

Sgt. Rawson continued, "During one of the missing persons cases that garnered the DPS award, Justin was contacted by a person he interviewed. This person had information about a homicide that occurred, possibly in the Kansas City [MO] area. Justin convinced the person to cooperate with the investigation. The suspect was located in Springfield [MO], eventually confessed to the murder, and led officers to the location of the body in Kansas City. This crime, until Justin was contacted, was not known to law enforcement. Without the cooperation, this crime may have never been discovered."

"I have known Justin for approximately 15-16 years," said Lieutenant Garrett J. Loring (Q/DDCC). "However, I have had the opportunity to come to know Justin better here lately. God forbid my family fall victim to a violent crime or any crime for that matter; if so, I would want Justin assigned as the case agent. Justin is relentless with any investigation he is assigned and leaves no stone unturned. He has a true passion for what he does, and it shows through the tireless work he spends on investigations for each and every victim. Not only does Justin thoroughly investigate each case he is assigned, but he also compiles

each case in a manner that is easy for the prosecution to follow should criminal charges arise. Moreover, Justin and his immediate supervisor have been told by federal prosecutor(s) his criminal investigations are extremely thorough and articulate. Justin is an exemplary investigator that each of us can learn from."

Cpl. Peabody said missing person's cases are some of the toughest cases he works and that being selected for this award was an honor. He went on to say, "The work we do every day is worthy of an award, and any one of us could have been selected. The team I work with is talented and dedicated. None of the cases I work could be completed without them."

DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the award and congratulated Cpl. Peabody at a ceremony on August 23, 2023, at Troop D Headquarters. Colonel Eric T. Olson was also present to congratulate him.

"Cpl. Peabody's work in these cases is a great example of the broad reach and impact the Patrol has on public safety," said Col. Olson. "His commitment to helping families and victims is evident, and he is well deserving of this recognition."

Congratulations, Cpl. Peabody, on a well-deserved award!



By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)

Mr. Richard Murphy visited the Colonel Alvin R. Lubker Safety & Education Center August 2, 2023. He shared news regarding a sizable trust set up for The Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society. Mr. Murphy also shared a display highlighting his father's career. His dad, retired Sergeant Jesse L. Murphy, served from 1948-1981 and his mom, Avis G. Murphy, worked as a secretary at Troop C for 25 years. His parents retired the same day. "I've always thought you, the Patrol, have never gotten the recognition you deserve," said Mr. Murphy. (Colonel Eric T. Olson is pictured with Mr. Murphy.)



Soap Box Derby: THE NEED FOR SPEED!



Tpr. Robert Rizo (F), Tpr. Mike Malone (Q/RCOD), Tpr. Brandon Harris (F), and Cpl. Catlynn McKinney (Q/TND) pause for a photo after the race.



A soap box derby car races down the road in Columbia, MO.

By Tpr. R. Mike Malone (Q/RCOD)

The Recruiting and Community Outreach Division sponsored a driver in The Downtown Optimist Club Mid-Missouri Soap Box Derby. Mr. Jace Bright from Jefferson City, competed in the Super Stock Down Hill Racer class. He didn't win the race, but he did have an absolute awesome time competing. Troopers braved the rain in the morning and cheered all the competitors to the finish line. During the down time, when troopers weren't cheering on the competitors, they were challenged to games of rock, paper, scissors, and arm wrestling.



Malugen Graduates From FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

Submitted By Troop C

Congratulations to Captain Kevin W. Malugen (C), who graduated from the FBI National Academy on June 8, 2023, in Quantico, VA. Capt. Malugen (a lieutenant while attending the session) was among 238 law enforcement officers graduating as members of the 286th Session. Nationally, fewer than one percent of officers have had the opportunity to attend the program.

The rigorous 10-week class consisted of men and women law enforcement officers representing 25 different countries, five military organizations, and six federal civilian organizations. The FBI's National Academy offers 10 weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training for selected officers having proven records as professionals within their agencies.



congratulations



(l to r) Capt. John Hotz and Lt. Eric Brown (both Q/PIED) celebrated with Public Info. Spec. III Meghan Basinger (Q/PIED) at the MPOA luncheon.

MPOA Honors Schuenemeyer, Basinger

By Cheryl D. Cobb
Public Info. Spec. III (Q/PIED)

The Missouri Police Officers Association recognized Trooper Joshua J. Schuenemeyer (E) and Public Information Specialist III Meghan E. Basinger (Q/PIED) at a luncheon July 28, at Lincoln University's Carver Farm in Jefferson City, MO. Tpr. Schuenemeyer accepted the Hank Johnson Officer of the Year award for his response at the approximately 50-vehicle crash on Interstate 57 in Charleston, MO. Public Info. Spec. III Basinger accepted the Non-Sworn Law Enforcement Civilian of the Year award for taking the extra steps to help identify a female in need of mental health services.



(l) Lt. Michele Coon and (r) Sgt. Jeff McCullough (both Troop E) were present at the MPOA luncheon to congratulate Tpr. Joshua Schuenemeyer (E).



Deaths



Franklin D. Nixon

FRANKLIN D. NIXON

Franklin D. "Pete" Nixon, 89, of Herculaneum, MO, died Saturday, July 1, 2023, at his home. He is survived by his son, four granddaughters, 12 great-grandchildren, and a nephew. His wife and one son preceded him in death. Pete served in the U.S. Army in Korea in 1955 as a radio technician. He worked for the Missouri State

Highway Patrol for 22 years as a commercial vehicle inspector and retired in 1996. Those wanting to learn more about Pete may visit the Vinyard Funeral Homes website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Nixon family.



Barbara L. Butchart

BARBARA L. BUTCHART

Barbara L. Butchart, 53, of Manchester, MO, died unexpectedly Wednesday, July 5, 2023. Loving daughter of the late Donald and Susan Butchart; fiancé of Mr. John Roderique; beloved sister of Thomas Butchart and his wife, Sandy, and Kelly Baer and her husband, Tim; aunt of Ryan and Matthew

Butchart, and Jessica, Robert, Stephanie, and Danny Baer; dear cousin and friend to many. Barbara began her career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a driver examiner assigned to Troop C, Weldon Spring, MO, on April 3, 2023. The family suggests in lieu of flowers that memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Schrader Funeral Home and Crematory handled the arrangements. A memorial service was held July 11, 2023. Friends may sign the family's online guestbook at Schrader.com. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to Mr. Roderique and the Butchart family.



Donald L. Wells

DONALD L. WELLS

Donald L. "Donnie" Wells, 84, previously from Jefferson City, MO, died July 20, 2023, after a brief illness. He served his beloved country in the United States Marine Corps for two years and continued in the reserves for another four years. In 1963, Donnie was accepted into the Missouri State Highway

Patrol Academy as a member of the 26th Recruit Class, and graduated top of his class with honors. He was first assigned to Troop F, Zone 6, Boonville, MO. He was promoted to corporal in April 1973, and designated assistant zone supervisor of Troop F, Zone 1, Jefferson City. In July 1975, Donnie was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the Intelligence & Investigation Section at Troop F as an investigator. He was promoted to lieutenant in September 1986, and designated assistant director of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, General Headquarters, Jefferson City. Donnie was promoted to captain and designated director of that division in September 1992. He retired July 1, 1994, after serving his community and the public for 38 1/2 years. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 62 years, Rosella "Sug" Wells. Donnie is survived by one son, one daughter, seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, three sisters, and a host of extended family members. The family suggests memorials be sent to Heart of Louisiana Humane Society of Winnifield, LA, or the charity of their choice. To learn more about Donnie, visit the Blanchard-St. Denis Funeral Home (Natchitoches, LA) website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Wells family.



Charles R. Sisk

CHARLES R. SISK

Charles R. Sisk, 87, of Barnhart, MO, died Friday, July 1, 2022, at Mercy Hospital St. Louis. After graduating from high school, he attended college before enlisting in the United States Air Force in 1961.

After four years, he was honorably discharged and returned to Missouri. Charlie was appointed to the Patrol June 1, 1967, as a member of the 33rd Recruit Class. He spent most of his career in Troop E, Poplar Bluff, MO. He was promoted to corporal in May 1981 and sergeant in May 1982. Charlie transferred to the Gaming Division in April 1995, and was assigned to the Casino Aztar in Caruthersville, MO. He retired July 1, 1998, after more than 31 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Katherine (Martin) Sisk, three sons, 12 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren. Visit the Vinyard Funeral Home website for more information. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Sisk family.



Roy L. Beal

ROY L. BEAL

Roy L. Beal, 85, of Jefferson City, MO, died Monday, July 31, 2023, at the University Hospital, Columbia, MO. Roy was a 1955 graduate of Chillicothe High School. Upon graduation, he immediately enlisted into the United States Marine Corps and proudly served

his country until his honorable discharge in 1961. After his military service, Roy returned to mid-Missouri, and was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol. For 32 years, he dedicated himself to serving Macon, Moberly, and

Cairo areas. His career included a role in the commercial vehicle unit, fostering a deep affinity for 18-wheelers and trucker hats. Survivors include his loving wife, Jackie, of the home, four children, a daughter-in-law, 12 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one son. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Cole County Senior Nutrition/Clark Senior Center Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 95, Jefferson City, MO, 65102. To learn more about Roy, visit the Freeman Mortuary website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Beal family.



Jerry L. Robinett

JERRY L. ROBINETT

Jerry L. Robinett, 72, of Jefferson City, MO, died Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at Capital Region Medical Center surrounded by his family. He attended school at Immanuel Lutheran Honey Creek, Eugene High School, and Lincoln University.

He also served in the national guard.

Jerry retired as a computer information technologist assigned to the Information and Communications Technology Division (now Criminal Justice Information Services Division) after 31 years of service with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He is survived by his loving wife, Candy (McArthur), four sons, two grandchildren, a brother, many nieces and nephews, and extended family. The family suggests expressions of sympathy can be made to Trinity Lutheran Church for new church pews. To learn more about Jerry, visit the Houser-Millard Funeral Directors website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Robinett family.



Steven H. Hoffrogge

STEVEN H. HOFFROGGE

Steven H. Hoffrogge, 78, died at his home in Tarkio, MO, on August 4, 2023. He graduated from Tarkio High School in 1964. Steven enlisted in the United States Navy and served on the USS Forrestal during the catastrophic fire in 1967.

He received his honorable discharge.

Steven began his career with the Patrol as a commercial vehicle enforcement inspector assigned to the H-4 scale house in Watson, MO. He attended the 4th Commercial Vehicle Officers' School in 1996. In 1997, he was promoted to commercial vehicle officer supervisor. Throughout his career, Steven was assigned to the H-4 scale house. He retired July 1, 2000. He is survived by two sisters and numerous nephews and nieces. The family suggests memorials be made to the Alzheimer's Association. To learn more about Steven, visit the Minter Funeral Chapels Inc. website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hoffrogge family.

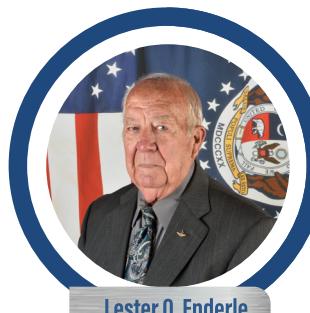


Ralph W. Robinett

RALPH W. ROBINETT

Ralph W. Robinett, 82, died at Capital Region Medical Center on Wednesday August 16, 2023. Ralph graduated from Cole R-V High School in Eugene, MO, in 1959. He earned a bachelor's degree in law enforcement from

Truman State University in Kirksville, MO, and a master's degree in criminal justice at University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. Ralph was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol on January 13, 1963. Upon graduation from the Academy in Rolla, MO, he was assigned to Troop F in Jefferson City, MO, and worked Osage and Gasconade counties. Other assignments included the California, MO, and Columbia, MO, areas. He also served in Troop A, Lee's Summit, MO, and Liberty, MO, areas. In 1972, He completed the nine-month police administration training course at Northwestern University Traffic Institute in Chicago. Ralph was then assigned to General Headquarters in Jefferson City. Ralph had special assignments including several state fair details including stints as the voice of Otto-The Talking Car, and the detail for the Republican National Convention in Kansas City, MO. He was the planning officer for five Missouri Governor inaugurations, for which he received two awards. His last assignment was conducting riverboat gaming and bingo investigations as a member of the Gaming Division. Ralph retired at the rank of sergeant in 1996, with over 33 years of service. He also served his country in the United States Army and retired from the Missouri National Guard at the rank of major after 24 years of service. Along with his wife of 58 years, Gloria, Ralph is survived by four children, two sisters-in-law, a niece, nephews, great-nieces, and a great-nephew. He was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings. The family suggests expressions of sympathy may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church in Jefferson City or the American Red Cross. To learn more about Ralph, visit the Houser-Millard Funeral Directors website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Robinett family.



Lester O. Enderle

LESTER O. ENDERLE

Lester O. Enderle, 92, of Poplar Bluff, MO, died Monday, August 21, 2023, at the Westwood Hills Nursing Center in Poplar Bluff. Lester graduated from St. Mary's High School in Cape Girardeau, MO. He was a veteran of the

United States Army and served in the Panama Canal Zone in anti-aircraft artillery. From October 12, 1958, until May 1, 1991, he served as a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He retired at the rank

of sergeant. The last 11 years, he was assigned as the pilot for Troop E. He was preceded in death by both of his wives (Patricia and Ethyle), two stepsons, four brothers, and one sister. Lester is survived by one son, two stepsons, and numerous nephews and nieces. To learn more about Lester, visit the Amick-Burnett Funeral Chapel website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Enderle family.



William Holloway

WILLIAM HOLLOWAY

William Holloway, 61, of Fulton, MO, died Monday, August 21, 2023, at Capital Regional Medical Center, in Jefferson City, MO. William was born on March 5, 1962, in Columbus, GA, the son of Collious and Leola (King) Holloway. On August 3, 1990, in Anchorage, AK, he was united in marriage to Rebecca

Potter. He had been working for the Missouri Highway State Patrol as computer information technologist since 2009. William enjoyed bicycling, watching any type of auto racing, reading about all different types of automobiles, and was an avid downhill skier.

Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Rebecca Holloway, of the home; his mother, Leola Holloway, of Anchorage, AK; one son, Shane Bryant (Erin), of Big Horn, WY; one daughter, Mira Kuni (Mike), of Helena, MT; four brothers, Alex Holloway-Melise, Roberto Holloway, Charles Holloway, and Michael Holloway; one sister, Desiree Holloway; one granddaughter, Alexis Unique Bryant; stepmother, Nancy Holloway, of Hartsburg, MO; stepsister, Lauren Lewis; and Rebecca's "critter" kids, Domino, Abby, and Coco. He was preceded in death by his father and one sister, Sheila Unique Holloway.

Visitation took place Saturday, August 26, 2023, at Debo Funeral Home in Fulton, MO. The funeral service followed with Pastor Bill Nigus officiating. Memorials may be made to Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, c/o Debo Funeral Home, 833 Court St, Fulton, MO 65251. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Holloway family.



Charlie B. Turner

CHARLIE B. TURNER

Charlie B. Turner, 82, died August 24, 2023, in Springfield, MO. Charlie served in the Army from 1962 to 1964, as a member of the 101st Airborne Division as a paratrooper and as a military police officer. After he was honorably discharged in 1964, Charlie served the Missouri State

Highway Patrol as a trooper assigned to Troop B, Macon, MO, and Troop I, Rolla, MO, for 31 years. At the time of his retirement on May 31, 1996, Charlie was the zone supervisor of Troop I, Zone 5, Laclede County. He is survived by his wife, Joy, of the home, two daughters, and four grandchildren. The family suggests memorial donations be sent to the Houston Lions Club to support the Shop with a Cop/Hero program to provide Christmas gifts for underprivileged children. To learn more about Charlie, visit the Adams Funeral Home (Ozark, MO) website. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Turner family.



Joseph H. Wilson Jr.

JOSEPH H. WILSON JR.

Joseph H. "Joe" Wilson Jr., 83, of Surprise, AZ, died August 28, 2023, at Boone Hospital in Columbia, MO, with his family by his side. Joe graduated from Macon High School in 1958. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1961 to 1966,

when he was honorably discharged. Joe became a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 1962 and graduated with the 25th Recruit Class. His first assignment was in Canton, MO, where he served for 18 years. From there, Joe went on to serve in St. Louis, MO, and Rolla, MO. He was also a member of the Patrol's state pistol team for many years winning numerous awards. While working for the Highway Patrol, Joe furthered his education by attending Culver Stockton College where he earned a degree in criminal justice in 1978. Joe also attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, in 1980. He retired from the Patrol on September 1, 1996. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Frances, of Surprise, AZ, two children, eight grandchildren, one great-grandson, four sisters, three stepchildren, three step-grandchildren, as well as many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. The family suggests memorials be made to The MASTERS (Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society), 780 County Road 383, Whitewater, MO, 63785.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Wilson family.



MSHP Negotiators Take FIRST PLACE

By Cpl. Justin C. Ewing (A)

On June 1, 2023, crisis and hostage negotiation teams from around the state competed in the annual Missouri Association of Crisis Negotiators Challenge. The all-day challenge is comprised of a real-world scenario that allows teams to test their knowledge, skills, and abilities in crisis negotiation. Each team is given the same scenario with a role player, and the scenario is treated like an actual "call out." Teams set up negotiation phones, equipment, and are required to communicate with a designated on-scene commander. Two judges follow each team throughout the entire scenario, grading them on team communication, staying in assigned team roles, reviewing all intelligence, and communicating with command staff. The teams work together to resolve the crisis and bring the scenario to a conclusion.

In addition to testing their knowledge, teams are competing against each other for the bragging rights of taking home first place. This year, four troopers from the Missouri State Highway

Patrol competed together against seven other teams. The Patrol took first place in the competition! The Patrol's team included Corporal W. Joe Luzenko (A), Corporal Chad D. Primm (B), Trooper Michael T. McCoy (C), and Corporal Michael A. White (C). According to Cpl. Luzenko, the Patrol's team scored high on their ability to communicate with each other and manage all the aspects of a successful negotiation.

Most teams work together on a regular basis and are comprised of six to eight members. "Our team only had four members, who don't work together but a few times a year," said Cpl. Luzenko. "That was really complimented by the judges."

This is not the first time the Patrol has placed in a negotiation challenge this year. The Patrol team took third place in the MoKan Negotiation Challenge in February 2023. That event is a conference and challenge made up of both Missouri and Kansas agencies.

Congratulations to our Patrol negotiators on their continued success!



(l to r) Tpr. Michael McCoy (C), Cpl. Joe Luzenko (A), (top, l to r) Cpl. Michael White (C), and Cpl. Chad Primm (B) excelled at the Missouri Association of Crisis Negotiators Challenge.

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This young lady stopped to visit her mom, Tpr. Kara Dinwiddie (Q/AD), at a recruiting event.